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New England States cooperate to improve bulletins

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■ The Mayo Clinic of Rochester, Minn., is just one illustration of how doctors unite their talents to solve medical problems. Cooperative printing of subject-matter leaflets for use by county and State extension services is an example of applying that same idea to our own organization.

Even though New Englanders are considered to be individualists, we think we have made a good start toward cooperative printing. Credit for originating the idea should go to Henry Bailey Stevens, now director of the New Hampshire Extension Service, and formerly editor. Some years ago Henry talked the matter over with me at a Boston meeting of New England editors. For several years the idea grew very slowly, but the past few years with a few examples under our belt the idea has been making much better progress.

4-H Leaders Pioneer

The most enthusiastic advocates of the cooperative printing idea have been the 4-H Club people, and logically so, for their teaching and programs are much more uniform than those of the other two main branches. Maybe the idea leaked from the editors, but of their own accord the New England State 4-H leaders started working on the idea of printing bulletins cooperatively. At a conference of State club leaders at Durham, N. H., in September 1945, a committee of 4-H leaders, with H. M. Jones, State club leader of Massachusetts, heading the group, planned for four cooperative 4-H Club bulletins. These were written and published within a year. A number of other 4-H bul-

lets have followed since, and the idea has spread to other phases of extension work.

For several years the northeast section of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors discussed cooperative printing. With the help of Lawrence Bevan, then of the Federal Extension Service, we worked up an outline guide. That helped some, but that first draft was too sketchy. Every bulletin was handled in a different manner.

When John Spaven returned from the military service to Vermont as extension editor—he was formerly in Massachusetts and New Hampshire—he suggested that we get together and work out a more definite routine for the cooperative printing procedure. As I indicated, previous to this time every bulletin seemed to be handled on a little different basis, and there were always certain steps which were neglected or overlooked entirely.

With that in mind, Mr. Spaven, Radie Bunn, extension editor here, and I got together in November 1946 and worked up a routine for the printing of these cooperative leaflets. It was checked over at a special session with the New England State 4-H Club leaders. They made some helpful suggestions.

There is an old trite saying that two heads are better than one even though both are cabbage heads, and we have found this to be true. No matter how good an author may be, there are others in the same field who have ideas equally good. The result—better bulletins.

The other main advantage of cooperative printing is that we can obtain

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Conservation is the watchword of the winter season and is being vigilantly observed on many fronts. There is hardly an extension program which has no bearing on the present need for saving all possible food and feed.

Secretary Clinton Anderson defined the job thus:

"This country is faced with the job of stretching its grain supplies to provide food for hungry people abroad and also to make sure that through wise use we will have enough to last us until the next harvest.

"If the need is to be met, every citizen must do his utmost to conserve grain and the foods that require grain in their production."

Suggestions for accomplishing the desired end, tailored to meet local conditions, have found their way to farm families through almost every means of communication, such as meetings, magazines, newspapers, radio broadcasts, conversations, pictures, and exhibits.

Meetings Plus

■ In Minnesota 34 meetings were held throughout the livestock feeding area. Local feed concerns, chambers of commerce, the extension agents, and others cooperated to plan for the sessions. H. R. Searles, extension dairyman; Max Hinds, extension economist; and Cora Cooke, poultry specialist, discussed with local producers the world food situation, stretching the high-priced feed as far as possible, and most effective feed practices. In addition, a series of suggested advertisements was developed. Each one carried at the head a picture of a hungry child and beside it this legend: "Somewhere in the world there are hungry youngsters because a nonworking dairy cow is wasting feed. . . . Somewhere in AMERICA are youngsters waiting for hamburgers from that cow. . . . If this cow is in your herd, **SELL HER NOW.**

The message was brought right down to individual Iowans in many

ways. One piece of background information read: "For us, who never have been really hungry, it is hard to realize the plight of people that face a winter of cold and starvation. Few if any of us have ever looked around our community in early winter and wondered which persons among us would not get enough food to be with us next spring." The facts about the food crisis and what could be done about it in Iowa by ministers, school teachers, commercial concerns, civic and service clubs, newspapers, and others was a topic of conversation in organized meetings and where friends met informally. The early preparation of suitable material and coordinated planning with all groups that had something to contribute produced results.

All Working Together

In Colorado the food and feed conservation program was launched, bringing together all organizations and groups to meet on common

ground, get the facts about the need, and consider what could be done. Meeting on November 1 were representatives from producers' associations, government agencies, churches, schools, farm organizations, labor unions, and cooperatives. Among the group were veterans, mayors, newsmen, radio broadcasters, theater owners, and men and women from all walks of life. The challenge was given by Governor Knous, Senator Edwin C. Johnson, and Congressman William S. Hill, while presiding was Director Anderson who has spearheaded the successful program there as chairman of the Governor's committee. Carrying the program locally are similar committees. In towns the committee is appointed by the mayor. In rural areas the agricultural planning committees take the lead. Everywhere, everyone has a job to do in this conservation program.

On the Table

Home demonstration groups have taken the food-conservation activities as their special responsibility. Food-saving ideas and recipes for stretching scarce foods are available to meet local conditions in every State. These are given at meetings, over the radio, in local newspapers, and during home visits. It has been something to talk and do something about on home demonstration programs.

In New Jersey, old wartime committees were revived and did an excellent job again as local food leaders. Indiana provided *Sixty Ways to Save Food* because "Wasting Food Is a Double Crime in a Hungry World." They are also making food conservation the theme of the 1948 leader training lessons. A weekly press release, *Table Talk*, and the Connecticut Homemaker are serving to carry the message to Connecticut women.

The women returning from the meeting of the Country Women of the World at Amsterdam, Holland, have reinforced the plea for food saving. Carmen Johnson, home demonstration agent in Colorado, had averaged one speech a day when the editor of the REVIEW saw her a few weeks after Miss Johnson's return from Europe. Eighty-five of these women are giving first-hand reports throughout the country. Other

groups, such as the 22 Iowa farmers who visited Europe, have also brought the matter realistically to rural areas at scheduled meetings, extension radio programs, and in written articles. The Cooperative Extension Service has facilitated a wide dissemination of these facts.

Rat-killing campaigns have been carried on in many places successfully. With rats destroying or damaging 200 million bushels of grain annually the control of rats, as well as of insects and weevils, occupies an important place in grain conservation. A fact sheet, Save Grain by Destroying Rats, published in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior, has been distributed and includes the names of district agents of the Fish and Wildlife Service whose help is available to county agents carrying on community rat-control projects.

4-H Club members in every State are taking an important part in grain-saving activities. Relief for rural boys and girls in war-torn countries has been an active project for many clubs. The boys and girls of Charles Town, W. Va., sent a carload of their own wheat to Germany several months ago. Clubs have adopted individuals and families to provide some clothing and supplement food supplies, so the need is well known to them. They are discussing conservation methods in their clubs, carrying out the suggestions with their own animals, learning new recipes for saving wheat and stretching scarce foods, and still keeping the nutritional standard high.

Conservation is giving early and strong impetus to the Freedom Garden movement. Extension workers are getting ready for a big garden

year, with at least 20 million Freedom Gardens in 1948, to release more food for hungry Europe. Two regional garden meetings held in the early garden areas of the South in the fall gave promise of reaching the goal. In Arkansas the program is called the Blanket of Green.

The big food crisis in Europe will come next spring after the European people have eaten most of their own food supplies. We have raised big crops, and if conservation is practiced during the winter months Americans can help preserve the peace and stability of the world. There are many easy ways of doing the conservation job, as the present programs prove. "The success of the American foreign policy rests in a large measure on the shoulders of farm people," warns Secretary Anderson.

Texas adopts "apprentice" system

The "apprentice" system of breaking in new and inexperienced county extension agents prior to their assignment to a county has been adopted by the Texas Extension Service. The plan was developed by Dr. Barnard Joy while a member of the Division of Field Studies and Training.

Dr. Joy, who spent some time on loan from the Federal Extension Service going over details of the plan with Texas extension workers, said: "The new training will eliminate the practice of sending out a new agent to a county to learn how to handle the job through the costly process of trial and error." And supervisors see in the plan a chance to evaluate the abilities of prospective extension agents before employing them on a permanent basis.

The new system will take prospective extension workers who are without previous field experience and give them a 3 months' period of actual field work under the direct supervision of an established agent.

Texas put the plan into operation on a trial basis this past summer with

the appointment of two men and two women. They were broken into teams, with a man and a woman going to Denton County and the other pair to Jones County.

The titles assigned to the prospective workers were "junior assistant county agricultural agent in training" and "junior assistant home demonstration agent in training." The two women had completed work toward a degree in home economics, and one has been assigned to a county on a full-time basis. The two men have returned to college to complete one and two semesters of work.

In both counties the district agents outlined the training plan with the county extension agents. Trainees took an active part in the extension work in the county, attended meetings, and were well grounded in office operation, management, arrangement, and courtesy.

Both J. D. Prewitt, vice director and State agent, and Maurine Hearn, vice director for women and State home demonstration agent, who kept in close touch with the trainees, are

convinced that the in-training period serves a vital purpose and plan to expand the system as prospective workers are available.

4-H pledge officially adopted

The 4-H pledge as commonly used was approved and adopted by State club leaders at the first National 4-H Club Camp in 1927 but was not officially adopted by the Committee on Extension Organization and Policy of the Land-Grant College Association until the meeting of August 31, 1947.

One of the first to use this pledge was Otis Hall, then State club leader in Kansas. Later, at the time Dr. R. A. Pearson was chairman of the Executive Committee of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, he and Dr. A. C. True, representing the States Relations Service, U. S. D. A., having been commissioned to draw up an official 4-H Club pledge, submitted the pledge substantially as it is used now, based on the one used by Otis Hall. But the records show it was not officially adopted until last August.

It is assumed that every State will use the national 4-H Club pledge as officially adopted.

Recreation on the upswing

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

■ Recreation is on the upswing in extension programs around the country. About 18 States now have specialists who devote at least part of their time to recreation projects. It seems to me this is a good thing. I am convinced that recreation has become an important part of rural living and that it will become even more important during coming years.

Mechanization and technology are reducing the working hours of American farm families. A two-man farm a generation ago is a one-man farm today. The farm and home work of rural women and children is lighter than ever before. Automobiles, improved highways, and other new ways of communication have put country people within easier reach of picnic parks, fairs, community organizations, movies, athletic events, and various other commercial recreational facilities and services at county seat towns or other surrounding cities.

The ideas of farm people about recreation have also changed. Years ago work was one of the things held in highest regard by farm people. Play was looked down upon. It was unheard of for a farm family to take a vacation. But today the idea that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" is being widely accepted. The Extension Service in many States now promotes vacation camps for farm women and young people. Ten times more farm families take vacation trips today than a generation ago.

Many cities and large towns have already provided to various degrees for recreational facilities and opportunities for their populations. There is need for similar recreational advancement in rural communities as well. This idea is emphasized in the 1945 report of the Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities.

The committee said that: "Every recent study of the problems of rural young people has shown one of their most urgent wants is for better recreational facilities and opportunities . . . Farm communities need to recognize that what they do, or fail

to do, in making the locality socially satisfying to both youth and adults, will influence markedly the kind of agriculture they will have in the years ahead. Adequate recreational facilities are a requirement of real importance and cannot be safely neglected or indefinitely postponed."

Recreation is an important part of life. It helps both the person and the community. What an individual does in his own leisure has a great deal to do with shaping his character, his personality, and determining his attitudes. Wholesome, socially approved recreation enriches the lives of people and pays dividends in health, happiness, and morale.

On the community side, recreation helps to make meetings more interesting; supplies training in group activity; helps to meet the social needs of the community; and provides experience in democratic living. Before people can work together they must become acquainted, and learn about one another's interests and aims. Playing together helps bring this about. When people play together and work together the word "community" takes on a new and broader meaning. A new spirit is born which encourages better understanding and appreciation for the farm, for the home, for the community, and for each other.

The Rural Aspects Report of the recent National Conference on the Prevention and Control of Juvenile Delinquency points out that all rural youth should have the opportunity and should be encouraged: (a) to participate in at least one local group or organization meeting regularly; (b) to participate in at least one standard competitive sport; (c) to develop appreciation and skill in some



This rural family camps beside the blue waters of Redfish Lake, Sawtooth National Forest, Idaho. Children are probably busy working up a hearty appetite fishing while their parents prepare the meal.

cultural art such as music, drama, art, or literature; (d) to follow at least one hobby or avocation; (e) that year-round recreational facilities should be available to every rural family, and (f) that the services of specialists in recreation organization and techniques should be available throughout rural America.

A great many good things along this line can happen out in rural America without a lot of elaborate machinery. Take Dowagiac, Mich., for instance: The local PTA organized a weekly youth dance in the high-school gymnasium. The school board cooperated by making the building available and supplying heat and light. Each youngster brought 5 or 10 cents a week to pay for an orchestra. An adult was present as chaperon, usually a faculty member who was paid for this service. But the whole organization and deportment of the occasion was regulated by a committee of the young folks themselves. Or, take the little hill town community of Goshen, Mass.: Here a women's club initiated the idea of building a sand beach along a portion of a lake that is in the township so it would be suitable

for swimming. The women organized the townspeople to do the job themselves. Other organizations were contacted, including the church young people's group; and the job was done on certain "beach work days" set aside for that purpose.

Recreation is already included in the programs of most groups and activities connected with schools, churches, granges and other farm organizations, cooperative associations, and civic groups. And it is certainly a part of our extension work, especially in the 4-H and home demonstration clubs. Recreation naturally belongs to all these local groups. It is folk recreation, not something highly specialized and formalized. But more is needed. In rural America the local community and normal recrea-

tional life are interdependent—each requires the other; each helps the other.

All this convinces me that Extension Service has a definite responsibility for encouraging recreation in rural life. We have a responsibility in seeing to it that this phase of total living is not neglected. Consultation, assistance, and materials should be available to local people for helping them to work out recreational improvements in their own homes and groups and communities, and in their own way. It seems to me that recreation can and should be a part of our educational program for improving the standards of living of rural people.

In Washington our Extension Service is represented on the Federal Interagency Committee on Recreation.

The purpose of this committee is to foster coordination between the Federal agencies concerned with recreation, such as the Forest Service, National Park Service, Corps of Army Engineers, Office of Education, Children's Bureau, and others.

An interagency recreation committee for the State of Arkansas is functioning as a clearinghouse for information on policies, experiences, plans, methods, and procedures among State agencies. They plan to help county agents find suitable places to hold 4-H camps, farmers and homemakers picnics, and to facilitate better utilization of recreational resources within the State. Such cooperation will help in meeting the recreational needs of rural communities.

New England States cooperate to improve bulletins

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bulletins on subjects that would otherwise be forgotten entirely or mimeographed. A thousand copies for each of half a dozen States make an order large enough to warrant printing.

Still another advantage is that more and better illustrations can be included. Right now all of the Northeastern States are planning to cooperate on the printing of a bulletin by New York State on color in the home. With a large order printed at one time we shall be able to use colored plates which otherwise would be prohibited by cost.

Savings made in printing cooperatively are offset to some extent by changes which the printer is required to make so that each State will be identified with the bulletin. Furthermore, occasionally conferences are necessary to iron out difficulties between the States, but we still maintain that the better bulletin which results is worth the extra charge or the extra time that might be necessary. We admit that one State can publish a bulletin in much less time than can five or six States, but we like to think of quality as being the ultimate goal.

A printing routine is something which I, personally, think is necessary

for the success of cooperative printing. But even with the routine, such a venture would not be successful without other factors being taken into consideration. The first one that I have in mind is that the home editor who has charge of printing a particular bulletin must be the wheel horse. He must see to it that deadlines are met and that all other angles of the cooperative routine are observed. If the editor falls down, the routine breaks down. This means too many delays, and the cooperating specialists lose interest.

Seasoned With Common Sense

The second point for success is this: Don't take the routine too seriously. In other words, there are always some authors who will want to do things in a little different manner; or circumstances make a different method advisable. Just so long as the routine is followed in a general way, that is all that is necessary. Life is too short to quibble over details.

If one State has a bulletin similar to the one proposed or for some other reason cannot cooperate conveniently, the others go ahead in the usual manner. It might be that only three States cooperate, but it still remains

the job of the home editor to see that the bulletin is kept moving.

We also make it a practice to keep other Northeastern States informed of bulletins that are being printed, as they may like to purchase just a few copies for their own use.

To give the cooperative publications uniformity, we use a design on all bulletins. This may vary in size, but the design stays the same and indicates that it is a New England cooperative publication. We can't help but feel that readers will give more consideration to a publication on which a number of good authorities cooperate.

To date, here are some of the publications that have been printed in this manner:

As Others See You—a courtesy manual for 4-H Club members.

Saving Labor on Poultry Farms.

It's Results that Count—a 4-H canning bulletin.

4-H Vegetable Garden.

4-H Dairy Handbook.

Income Tax Information.

Keeping High School Youth in 4-H Clubs.

Business Facts for Busy Homemakers.

This Feed Shortage.

Buying a Home Freezer.

Straight from the Shoulder—4-H health leaflet.

There are a number of other bulletins now in the process of being written or being printed.

Michigan professor studies extension work in Japan

EARL C. RICHARDSON, Extension Editor, Michigan State College

■ Japan's bureaucratic agricultural extension program may be remodeled to resemble the democratic program operating in the United States as a result of a study of the current plan by Russell E. Horwood, Michigan State College associate professor.

Horwood had many years of extension experience when serving as dairy extension specialist in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan before joining the resident teaching staff at MSC. He returned in late September from 12 months in Japan while on leave from his college teaching duties at East Lansing, Mich.

The last 9 months of this period, Horwood spent traveling over Japan studying the operation of the extension program and preparing recommendations for changes in its administration and operation. The proposed changes were made to the chief of the agricultural division of the natural resources section of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

The agricultural extension program in Japan is actually carried on by three different ministries and one semigovernmental agency, according to Horwood. The ministries are similar to our departments in Washington, D. C. Under them are bureaus, and even within ministries different bureaus operate some extension-type programs.

For example, the Ministry of Finance controls the extension programs in tobacco, salt, and camphor through the Monopoly Bureau. The regular agricultural extension program of the Ministry of Agriculture handles most of the programs but has no connection with the universities and colleges. These institutions, under the Ministry of Education, teach some agricultural courses and conduct research but have no connection with the Agriculture and Forestry Ministry. They conduct, in a limited way, their own agricultural extension program.

The semigovernmental agency is the All Japan Agricultural Associa-

tion, to which all of Japan's farmers must belong. It is the marketing agency for all farm products in addition to having some regulatory powers and extension administration.

Horwood relates that little provision has been made for the spread of the information gained in research or at the extension demonstration farms. These farms number about a thousand and are set up to serve four to seven villages, or from 4,000 to 8,000 farmers each. Another 1,100 demonstration farms were included in the Japanese plan. The staff usually consists of a director (which would correspond in authority and duties to our county agents), a crops technician, a livestock technician, and two laborers.

The extension farm directors organize neighborhood associations in each farm area. These associations are made up of local agricultural technicians, school teachers, food inspectors, chiefs of food-production increase practice groups, and key farmers. The number varies from 50 to 80 in each neighborhood association. They aid with the farm work and receive instruction and training and act as local training and guidance leaders for the farmers.

Information by Word of Mouth

It is by word of mouth—from these 50 to 80 persons—that the farmers obtain their information about crops, livestock, insect control, and other things. Because of the big shortage of paper, few if any bulletins are available. Few newspapers are available to carry information to the farmers, and the use of Government-controlled radio stations for agricultural information is limited.

Horwood says a number of the agricultural specialists in the lower level of the program are qualified and have good ideas. In the past they have been unable to develop and use them because of the dictation of the program from the top. Farmers themselves, Horwood says, are in many instances still afraid to express them-

selves. They are, however, becoming more democratic. Although limited, capable leadership is starting to take over from politically designated superiors who were incompetent from a technical agricultural standpoint.

Because of the shortage of natural resources such as coal and iron, the farmers are suffering from all of the economic problems of the nation as a whole. About 45 percent of the 77 million people in Japan are farmers or are in farm families. The average-size farm is 2 acres, which provides little room for livestock. Only 16 percent of the land is tillable.

In the northern part of the island are found most of the dairy animals. There are some purebred herds, and most of the animals are of Holstein descent. Production is exceedingly low because of a lack of roughage and protein concentrates. Top yields on the experimental farms for high-producing dairy animals are from 250 to 300 pounds of butterfat a year. Milk is a very scarce product in most of Japan.

Among the suggestions made for changing the agricultural extension programs, Horwood recommended a unified program flowing from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. This program would function through the universities and colleges and be coordinated with the proposed reorganization of agricultural research. Such a program, he said, should be entirely democratic to fulfill the desires and needs of the Japanese farmers.

He also recommended a youth program similar to 4-H Club work in the United States and a home economics extension program. Neither exists under the present program.

The MSC professor considers his experience as "valuable" and has faith in the Japanese people working out their own problems with the aid of the Americans. "They have great respect for the people from the United States and want to learn from us. Many are anxious to learn our language and get our books, bulletins, and literature on farming methods," Horwood said.

In Horwood's opinion, it will take a number of years to establish the occupation program in Japan, including the improvement of the agricultural economy of the nation.

Road survey

To improve existing roads and make proposals for routing new farm-to-market roads, B. H. Trierweiler, Goshen County, Wyo., agricultural agent, has organized road subcommittees in all communities of the county to develop plans.

The project, suggested to the Board of County Commissioners by the State Highway Department, was given to the County Agricultural Advisory Committee for survey. Trierweiler already has held meetings in each of the 10 communities in the county. He explained the road program and conducted the election of 51 members to serve on community road committees.

Later, a leader-training meeting was held by the county agent and attended by the road chairman and county commissioners. County maps showing community boundary lines were given to the chairmen for their surveys.

These maps will be used to indicate present land use, soil types, and existing roads, using various symbols in different colors. When they are completed, the community maps will be consolidated on three county maps by the county agent. Additionally, each community committee will prepare another map to show various recommended Federal, State-Federal, State-county, and county roads, tonnages hauled over these different roads, and the priorities of each kind of road.

When the survey is completed, committeemen, commissioners, State representatives, and the State highway and Bureau of Public Roads officials will meet to discuss road improvement and the new farm-to-market road proposals.

Music in the air

Folk songs from many European countries, China, Australia, and Mexico, were learned by the women of the home demonstration clubs of South Dakota as their music program during 1946 and 1947.

Most clubs learned a new song each month. Edith Cheney, home agent at large in charge of music and recreation, reports 482 clubs included some music in their program last year.

The collection of not-so-common folk songs was titled "Harmony

Around the World." A pageant of the same name, using folk songs sung by a chorus and dramatization by women in colorful costumes, was given at the women's camp in the Black Hills last summer, at the State fair, and at the State federation meeting in Pierre, as well as by clubs throughout the State. A Wessington Springs club raised money for a new hospital with two presentations of the pageant.

Miss Cheney joined the staff in September and started a series of music training schools and began helping clubs with their music and recreation program. Folk dancing proved to be very popular.

At four radio broadcasts in various South Dakota cities, home demonstration club women joined Miss Cheney in singing an Australian round.

Everybody likes to sing, Miss Cheney points out. During the banquet at the State federation meeting in Pierre last November the members were enjoying some community singing when they discovered the chorus had been augmented by hunters and Government employees sitting in adjoining booths. Everybody joined in on Home on the Range.

■ National 4-H Club Week will be observed March 1-7, 1948. The theme selected for the year is "Creating better homes today for a more responsible citizenship tomorrow."

Movies make the point

A rural pastor in the Berkshire Hills of Massachusetts borrowed films from the film library of the Massachusetts Extension Service and used them very effectively in a religious education program. Rev. Dudley H. Burr was impressed with the value of the motion picture in the Army and decided to try it out in a series of meetings with 69 school children. His first meeting was devoted to the theme, "This Is Our Father's World;" and pictures of Yosemite National Park, a wildlife film, and a film showing the growth of seed and the development of plants, with a short explanation, brought out his points admirably. Soil conservation, forestry, travel films were grist for his mill and made his point.

Forestry camp for Texas agents

Fifteen county agents took part in an intensive forestry course covering a period of 3 weeks last summer. The camp was under the supervision of the School of Agriculture with the State Forest Service and Extension Service cooperating. It was listed as a summer course of the college and carried 3 hours credit. Studies included the role of farm forestry in Texas, trees and wood identification, silviculture, mensuration, forest utilization, protection, treatment of fence posts, woodland range management, and marketing of timber. Financial sponsorship of the camp was made possible by lumber and forest product associations and industries.

■ K. J. EDWARDS, formerly of the Texas Extension staff, arrived on October 23 by plane for a brief stay in this country. Mr. Edwards left last December for Saudi Arabia as head of an agricultural educational program for King Ibn Saud and the Arabian Government. He took with him five other Texas men, three of whom had been with the Texas Extension Service.

The program, now well under way, is so satisfactory to the Arabian Government that Mr. Edwards has been authorized to recruit 20 more agents for work in Arabia immediately. Men should have experience in both irrigation and extension. The term of service will be 24 months, at which time the men will be entitled to home leave with pay and all travel expenses paid. Pay is good, with little opportunity to spend. No facilities for taking families abroad, however, can be provided.

Mr. Edwards says that King Ibn Saud is desirous of making Arabia as self-sufficient as possible and is sincerely interested in the welfare of his people.

As water is scarce, geological exploration of Arabia is being made. Emphasis is being put on the production of food crops, particularly vegetables which are so necessary for good health.

While in this country Mr. Edwards spent most of the time in Texas, California, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado.

Agent and specialist talk county programs

C. G. BRADT, Associate Professor, Animal Husbandry, New York Extension Service

■ Not long ago I talked with a young county agricultural agent who had recently accepted a job in another county. This chap is energetic. He has been well trained in the field of agriculture which predominated in his new location. This is principally dairying. He likes cows.

The county into which he went is far from being the best dairy county in his State. There are some good herds, some excellent dairymen, and progressive cattle breeders. However, most of the herds are small. Much of the area is mountainous and rough. Huge boulders, glacier-strewn-about, in pasture fields are abundant. Cows frequently are found grazing in the brush in the border-line mountain regions. Cattle in many cases are undersized, not well grown. The effect of poor sires is quite noticeable. But many fine people reside there in spite of these many farming handicaps. They are making a living and seem to be happy and contented. Deer hunting in the fall is their pastime and recreation.

Riding with this agent through this region, we were discussing the problems of the dairy farmer. What kind of program will fit this area? Previous programs apparently did not reach the folks who needed the help most. At least, some of the ideas did not take root as they should. This new agent sensed the reaction as he gradually began to get his feet on the ground. At times he was a little discouraged. When I was with him he appeared to be in this rather dejected mood.

Flings Out a Challenge

I shall remember one thing he said. It was this:

"I believe if I had a dairy county like some of those down State, we could put on a real dairy program. Up here the folks don't seem to be as interested as they should be in proven bulls, artificial breeding, dairy record keeping, herd health, pasture improvement, and in growing better forage crops. Somehow they are dif-

ferent. They are not like those dairymen in the dairy counties where I have worked before as an assistant."

In this statement there was a challenge. In many respects what he had said was partially true, as I knew the county and its background. For a moment I did not reply. He had me guessing-thinking. Here was a young agent needing encouragement. Was I equal to the task of providing it? Should I accept what he had said—agree with him? This would have been side-stepping the problem—the issue—the challenge.

Extension Workers Are Teachers

Gathering my thoughts together, I said: "Tom, you and I are supposed to be teachers. That is the big job of an extension worker. We must admit that sometimes our programs do not go over as they should with some people. Farmers do not always respond as quickly as we would like to have them. Often, we become impatient—discouraged. Perhaps we must reexamine our programs to see what is wrong with them. Frequently a successful program in one area does not fit another. Sometimes we have to apply entirely different methods, different appeals to gain the interest of those whom we seek to influence. These things we must consider.

Learners Not Made to Order

"In addition to that, let us not lose sight of the fact that we as teachers do not make our learners. *We take them as they are—where we may find them.* Our job as extension workers is primarily to develop and train people wherever they may live, accepting them at the educational level of their experience and knowledge.

"Here in this county," I said, "you have some good citizens."

Tom admitted that wholeheartedly. They were good folks in spite of some backwardness in cow- and crop-improvement practices. Tom and I were beginning to stand on common ground now. We were getting somewhere.

"Then you would say," said Tom, "that the thing we should do is to take folks as they are and build them up as rapidly as they will accept our stuff."

"That's exactly it," I replied. "Let us find out at what rung in the farm-practice ladder they now are and take them up step by step—one at a time. Build soundly as we proceed—and don't go too rapidly. Each new practice learned, however simple, but adopted, means satisfaction to the learner—to the teacher. Do this, and the dairy program in your county will be successful—will be bringing progress, gaining support."

Tom, the new county agent got the idea—a new slant on extension teaching—to him at least. I profited by the discussion, too. It does us all good to take stock of what we are doing and where we are going.

I haven't been back with Tom since our conversation of nearly a year ago. From reports, he is happy in his work. His farmers like him and swear by him. His program is clicking. He is endeavoring to be a good teacher.

To make a movie

A colored 4-H movie was set up as the goal of volunteer 4-H leaders and club members in Pueblo County, Colo. With the help of 2 extension agents, Mrs. Clara Anderson and Mel Haines, they staged a 4-H carnival on the State fair grounds with 2,000 people in attendance and gate receipts of \$1,300. The movie got under way promptly, and some of the scenes were taken at the 4-H camp. Watching the techniques of lighting and photography and acting before a movie camera added zest to the 1947 4-H camp.

■ Last year the West Addison, Vt., home demonstration club started a new project—stimulating interest in their town library. This was suggested by the project of sponsoring a fifth book-wagon for the State Traveling Library Commission, to which all home demonstration groups of the State are contributing. Since working on their local library problems the group has seen results, both in contribution of books and in a wider circulation of books among the townspeople. The club itself has bought new books for the library and urged wider use of it.

Agent offers recipe for a good field day

The flame thrower disposes of brush in a whiff.

■ "Things went off in fair shape at the field." That was the modest and mild-mannered comment made by Ken Boyden of Worcester County, Mass., in his August 1947 report. He was describing the second annual Worcester Farm Field Day which drew a crowd of between 8,000 and 9,000 farm men, women, and children. Then he added: "The program ran smoothly, the crowd was very much interested, and I think we did some educational work."

Ken, who is county agricultural agent in Worcester County, had experience in handling farm field days in Chittenden County, Vt. Here are his comments in brief for the benefit of others who may like to try a field day as part of the county extension service program.

First of all it must be a cooperative affair. Every member of the county extension staff worked hard to make the affair a success. We had the co-operation of more than 20 agricultural organizations and commercial concerns dealing with farmers. When you get that many horses pulling in the same direction, they can handle quite a load. Cooperators included farmer-owned cooperatives, farm commodity associations, State and Federal agencies, manufacturers and distributors of farm machinery, and the rural department of the electric company.

Steering Committee Plans

We appointed a steering committee of 10 people to plan the broad program. Chairmen of subcommittees were allowed to select their own working committees. Some of the major ones were women's programs, exhibits, facilities, finances, publicity, parking, recreation, refreshments, and so forth. These included supervised play for the children.

Finances were derived from selling space to exhibitors. About half sold to large farm machinery manufacturers and the rest to small exhibitors who paid \$10 for a 10-by-15-foot space.



Even though there are many chairman committees, there must be one general manager to carry out the over-all program laid down by the governing committee. This is important, says Boyden. You can't have everyone boss.

Here are some other things to look out for in handling such a program, says Boyden.

Pick out a farm which offers good roads and parking facilities for handling a crowd.

Run the events on time.

Have adequate loud-speaking equipment.

Plan something for men, women, and children.

Start planning at least 3 months before the event.

Put the main part of the program in the afternoon. This gives more chance for late comers to see the event.

At least some of the demonstrations must be spectacular in order to hold interest.

Here's a brief run-down of the program as held this year: 10 o'clock, soil-conservation demonstration of land clearing which included brush disposal with flame thrower. 11 o'clock, demonstration of fire fighting with special emphasis on small equipment a farmer can buy to control fires until the department arrives.

2 o'clock, commodity meetings centered around demonstrations of the latest equipment. 3 o'clock, a 2-hour demonstration of general farm machinery, including airplane and helicopter spraying, followed with land preparation and haying equipment.

Some 8,000 people were fed at noon by the 4-H department and about 50 helpers. The afternoon program led off with an old country auction which brought in \$150. The speaking program was very short, running only 10 minutes. During that time four speakers were taken care of, and Ken adds this comment, "which was probably too many."

Hospital is landscaped

The county cooperative hospital at Crosbyton, Tex., was landscaped by the home demonstration clubs through a "bushel of wheat drive." The women drove pick-up trucks out into the fields where Crosby County farmers were harvesting a bumper crop of wheat and asked for a donation of a single bushel. Mozelle Reast, home demonstration agent, says that the women collected more than \$400 worth of wheat. A club committee has drawn up a set of landscape plans for the consideration of the hospital board of directors.

Negro agents study their job in Alabama

J. R. OTIS, State Leader for Negro Work, Alabama Extension Service

E The workshop for Negro agents in Alabama was wholly the result of knowledge and inspiration gained at the workshop held for colored supervisors in Louisiana in November 1946.

Agents, for the most part, know subject matter. The big problem has been to get action on the part of farmers. This indicated a need for improved teaching methods and increased participation in extension teaching by farm people.

The total extension program can advance only as fast and as far as extension workers are able to conceive and put into motion programs that will result in better extension teaching.

Planned on Basis of Need

The concept of a workshop, briefly stated, was that: (1) It should last for a period of 2 weeks; (2) it might well deal with existing problems of a functional nature; (3) it could be more effective on the county level because county workers, in the last analysis, are the ones to get effective extension teaching done.

The workshop was planned on the basis of need which, as we saw it, was to have agents think more uniformly as to the meaning of basic extension terms and to establish organized procedure.

It may seem queer to some extension supervisors that time should be given to this phase of extension work. But, if such extension supervisors who think so should conduct a quiz and have agents define a few basic terms, such as "result demonstration," "objectives," "aims," "program," and "plan of work," they would see the need of a workshop which seeks to improve the training of agents in matters wholly free of subject matter.

Negro extension workers in the South find their job differs somewhat from that of white workers; it calls for much teaching and little administration, which has advantages as well as disadvantages.

Farmers have been slow to adopt basic improved practices that lead to

increased income and a more desirable standard of living. Homemakers have had to spend too much of their time in producing crops by hand methods because of the lack of improved machinery which farmers were capable of using.

A 10-year study of trends in extension work in Alabama, 1937-46, shows that the time spent by homemakers on productive projects, such as poultry and garden crops (for home consumption and for sale) has increased in proportion as farmers have used machinery in production.

One of the things that the workshop set out to do was to propose an organizational procedure by which farm people could better help themselves in accomplishing the extension job of raising the income level. This, like seven other major problems, was answered acceptably for all agents in attendance.

Supervisors feel that in one or two instances items were overemphasized; in a few others the answers were not as complete as they might have been. Be that as it may, what has been done in this workshop is the product of the thinking and deliberation of the agents themselves.

The answers to the problems will give uniform procedures in performing the work and should make the agents about twice as effective as extension teachers as they were before the workshop. Supervisors think it was the best investment the Alabama Extension Service could have made in the professional improvement of its workers.

The problems for the workshop were set up as a result of the experience of supervisors in getting agents to do certain jobs and to adopt techniques which they knew were essential to doing effective extension teaching.

Seven problems were selected and "suggested aspects to be considered in answering them" were listed under each and mailed to the agents in advance, solely for the purpose of stimulating their thinking. They were asked to return one copy of the sug-

gested problems, listing each in order of preference for assignment of committees.

Advance Home Work Was Helpful

When returns were all in on preference of committee assignment, another list with statement of problem and the names of committee members, by preference, was mailed to the agents, asking them to mark "X" after the name of the person on the committee who was their first choice for chairman and "Y" after the name of the second choice. The seven problems for discussion by the workshop groups were: Organization of the county for more effective work; developing of consciousness on the part of agents as to the importance of a system of farming adapted to the county and the area; defining the jobs of county and home agents; self-evaluation by the county agents on the job, and how he can evaluate his work; making 4-H Club work more effective; applying professional ethics to extension work; and county personnel relationships.

When returns were in on choice of chairmanship, group chairmen were notified and asked to make an outline of what they thought the committee report should include.

Among the staff of speakers recruited for the workshop were: Director P. O. Davis, and other members of the State staff (white and Negro); Dr. Paul L. Kruse, Cornell University; Dr. Gladys Gallup, Dr. E. J. Neiderfrank, Mr. C. A. Sheffield, and Dr. E. H. Shinn, of the Federal Extension Service; Mr. T. M. Campbell, field agent, USDA; and members of the Tuskegee Institute staff. Topics of all speakers were pointed and designed to answer the questions which needed to be answered in finding a solution to some one of the seven problems.

Only 2 night sessions were held during the 2 weeks. Small subcommittee groups worked nights, Saturday afternoon, and Sunday to find answers to controversial issues in the reports. They apparently enjoyed it, as the summary of the evaluation of the workshop revealed that 57 percent of them thought the workshop was "very satisfactory" and 36 percent thought it was "adequate" when compared with other means of teaching.

Rural youth organization popular in Nebraska

T. H. ALEXANDER, State Rural Youth Leader, Nebraska

Rural Youth, an organization for the older rural young people, is gaining in popularity in Nebraska as well as in other States in the Union. The organization had its beginning in this State about 10 years ago and has now spread over the State with more than a third of the counties having organized groups.

According to their creed, the main purposes of the organization are: "To increase and improve the contact, stimulate fellowship, and develop leadership among rural young men and women." These purposes are more commonly expressed in their program as education, recreation, and community leadership.

The first State organization of Rural Youth came into being when a group of young folks from 8 or 10 counties got together at a camp at Lexington in 1937. Counties represented were Dawson, Lincoln, Buffalo, Custer, Phelps, Gosper, Kimball, and Box Butte, and as a result of this meeting all counties organized groups with the exception of Phelps County. The real beginning, however, dates back to 1932 when a group of young people, mostly 4-H alumni, got together in Buffalo County and were organized by the county agent, Alvah Hecht.

Rural Youth programs are divided into three phases: Education, recreational or social, and community activities. The education part of the program is of importance when one realizes that according to the 1940 census only 4 percent of the youth between the ages of 15 and 21 are still in school. Only a small percentage of the youth of that age are enrolled in 4-H Club work or belong to any other educational group. The educational part of the program is provided by various means. Discussion on topics of interest, speakers, debates, and motion pictures are some of the methods used by the various clubs in presenting educational material to the groups. The topics include a great variety of subjects. The most popu-

lar ones are those that vitally affect the youth in their everyday life. Technical topics of agriculture and homemaking have not been as popular as those dealing with self-improvement and community problems.

The recreation and social phase of the program is of great importance to the group, as this is so often lacking in many of the communities. Opportunities for increasing their acquaintances are also provided by a number of district camps and one State camp, which are held each year. Three district camps, one at Curtis, one at Seward, and one at Chadron, now provide opportunities for groups to get together and participate in the program.

Folk dancing has become very popular with these groups, and most groups include it as part of their recreation activities. Parties, skating, hayrack rides, picnics, and inter-county banquets all provide a place and means of social life for the group.

Community activities give a chance to develop community leadership. These activities are also varied and include the leadership of 4-H Clubs, working with county fairs, sponsoring exhibits at county and State fairs,

sponsoring recreation schools and numerous other events.

The age limit in Rural Youth has been set by the State organization as 17 years and over. The groups are urged to plan their own programs and to be responsible for their own meetings. The county extension agents are always ready to assist the groups in their planning and in providing material and information for the programs. However, in most groups the responsibility for planning and carrying out the program rests with the group and its officers.

The State organization to which each group may affiliate has its own officers and plans the State-wide events. These officers are chosen at the State camp held each August and then serve until the following year. They meet quarterly as an executive committee and plan the events for the groups. In addition to the officers who are elected annually, an advisory committee, composed of two county agricultural agents and two home demonstration agents, is elected.

Thirty-six groups are now active in the Rural Youth program in Nebraska. Most of these groups are organized on a county-wide basis; however a few are community groups.

The organizations are spread over the State, from Otoe and Cass Counties in the east to Scotts Bluff in the west; from Furnas in the south to Holt and Brown, Rock and Keya Paha in the north.

Advisory committee (standing): Fred Blummer, county agent of Logan, Arthur, and McPherson Counties; T. H. Alexander, State rural health leader; Mary Strohecker, home demonstration agent of Scotts Bluff County; and Alvah Hecht, county agent of York County. **Officers (seated):** Duane Sellin, news reporter; Erma Wehmer, secretary; Lloyd Wirth, president; Dorothy MacLean, treasurer; and Rex Geiger, vice president.



"Long may our land be green"

LEIGHTON G. WATSON, Extension Editor, West Virginia

A unique week of soil conservation activities was recently planned and carried out by the county USDA council in Wetzel County, W. Va. Designed to bring the need for saving the soil to the attention of all residents of the county, a conservation week committee, headed by Kathleen E. Stephenson, assistant home demonstration agent, planned the week's program around the theme, "Long May Our Land Be Green."

We have had similar sayings in the past, but most of them have been coined during the fire season. The slogan as used by the Wetzel County committee certainly means a lot more than just keeping the forest land green. It means keeping the whole county green.

How did the committee go about planning such a week's program?

Faith Plus Cooperation

Of prime importance in planning such a week is a belief that there is a need for such activities. Next, there must be cooperation between individuals, agencies, and organizations. Finally, all must have that dynamic force so necessary to accomplish the job. The big job was to get everyone—townspeople, civic clubs, churches, farm folks and their organizations, school children, school teachers, and Vo-Ag and 4-H Club members acquainted with the job to be done and the importance of the job.

The week's activities started, appropriately enough, on Sunday. The ministers of the county cooperated by preaching sermons on "The Earth Is the Lord's." Each day, throughout the week that followed, community meetings were held, with some special speaker, tour, or movie that fitted into the theme of the week.

Other high lights of the observance included an essay contest for high school students, Future Farmers, 4-H members, and Boy Scouts. The topic was "What Conservation Means to Me." Another contest to encourage better farm plans and practices was sponsored by the Upper Soil Conservation District for farm boys between the ages of 14 and 21.

Perhaps the outstanding event of the week was a conservation tour of Wetzel County. Most of those who went on the tour were businessmen and townspeople, proof of the close tie between farm and city. The theme for the week, "Long May Our Land Be Green," was also the keynote of the tour.

The first stop was for a wood-lot demonstration on the farm of Hayes Hall. Here the group saw demonstrated practical methods of tree conservation and management. Mr. Hall made a definite impression on the group because of his simple, and perhaps sentimental, approach to the question of forest conservation.

The next stop was at the farm of Albert and Woodrow Garner, a father-and-son team. Here the group gathered on a hilltop and saw before them a wonderful demonstration of the productiveness and erosion-controlling values of grassland farming on steep land. Woodrow Garner pointed out very effectively that their present method of farming had tripled their production of hay and at least doubled the carrying capacity of their pas-

tures. This was more proof of the double value of conservation farming.

The tour continued with stops at three more farms. The group heard about, inspected, and discussed spring improvement, pasture development, diversion ditches, strip cropping, grassland farming, and other conservation farming methods. Homestead improvement also came into the picture with stops at the homes of Glen Jolliffe and D. W. Argabrite.

In contrast to the conservation way of farming were stops made to view hillside cornfields where summer rains had washed the topsoil into roadside ditches, clogging drains. These farmers not only lost precious topsoil but added more expense to the already expensive cost of road maintenance. A visit was made to an abandoned farm—abandoned because the land would no longer support a family. This was another example of poor soil management made more tragic because of the prosperous farms surrounding it.

Because of the steep, rough topography of most of Wetzel County, a good conservation program must be based on growing grass and trees on hill farms. It was easy to see where the growing of corn had resulted in serious erosion. It was also easy to see differences in grass. As the tour progressed

Farmers and townspeople who took the conservation tour in Wetzel County stop to inspect a diversion ditch.



along the winding ridges, the group saw a panorama of many farms where the use of lime and fertilizer had resulted in dark rich green meadows. Adjoining was the pale green color of untreated fields. The continued use of lime and fertilizer in Wetzel County is essential to high grass production and good erosion control.

The pattern of land use in the county was readily apparent—the ridge tops used for meadows, the intermediate slopes for pasture, the steep sides of the hollows for woodland, and the bottom lands for tilled crops. Where corn had been planted on the steep hillsides it was easily seen that excessive soil loss had taken place. Such loss in a year's time far exceeds the value of the crop, and many tons of soil end up in our streams and rivers. Bordering on the Ohio River, the people of Wetzel County readily appreciate this fact because when the river floods it leaves behind thick deposits of silt and mud.

The week's activities did much to focus the attention of all people in West Virginia on the need for conservation farming, because this was the first such county-wide celebration to be held in the State.

The Wetzel County USDA Council believes that the program brought out the fact that everyone, city or country, has a vital part to play in helping to conserve our most basic resource—the soil.

As Mr. Hall said when we visited his woodland: "My idea of conservation is to pass on to the next generation land that is at least as fertile as when I started to farm." If we all do that, we have nothing to fear.

■ **MISS PRESENTACION ATIENZA**, chief of the Plant Utilization Division, Bureau of Plant Industry, Manila, Philippine Islands, is officially in this country on special detail from her government. Miss Atienza succeeded the late Dr. Maria Orosa, well known to extension agents and many scientists in USA. Prior to the war, home economics extension work had made considerable progress in the Philippines under the leadership of Maria Orosa. There were, for instance, 21,060 members in 582 rural improvement clubs in the Islands, organizations through which nutrition and other scientific homemaking ac-



Miss Presentacion Atienza.

tivities were taught. Then a few months after MacArthur's armies liberated the Philippines, Mrs. Ola Powell Malcolm, of the Federal Extension staff, had a letter from Miss Atienza reporting that Dr. Orosa had been killed in the Manila bombings. Miss Atienza reported also that practically everything in the way of physical equipment, books, bulletins, and other teaching tools had been destroyed. This information was sent on to State extension services.

Miss Atienza expressed great appreciation for all help received from extension workers, farm women's clubs, and numerous campuses in the form of literature, canning equipment, cooking and sewing supplies, and various other items needed for practical home demonstration work. She has asked us to extend to all of you sincere appreciation for the cooperation shown by United States Extension workers, 4-H Club members, and farm women.

Miss Atienza arrived by plane. She will spend several months studying United States Extension administration methods. She will also acquaint herself with the latest information on developments in the field of nutritional science. She reports that about 134 rural improvement clubs have been revived. Miss Atienza now has 27 home demonstration agents in the provinces, with at least 6 months' extension training under her. They are

employed by 16 provincial governments. Thirty-eight specialists also work under Miss Atienza in the central office. As soon as additional equipment and more trained personnel can be obtained, the work will be expanded further in the provinces. She reports that the club members and agents are doing a wonderful work in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of homes in the Philippine Islands. Her war experiences were really harrowing. As a guerilla lieutenant, she was supplying news and food to the prisoners of war and to the guerillas.

Miss Atienza has a university degree and each of the provincial home demonstration agents is a home economics graduate.

About 10 years ago while Miss Atienza was Miss Orosa's assistant, she was sent officially by the Philippine Government to the United States for 2 years to study home demonstration work. During that time, under the direction of Mrs. Ola Powell Malcolm, Miss Atienza and Miss Nativad Brodeth, home demonstration agent from the Philippines, traveled and studied Extension Service organization in about 18 States besides spending nearly a year's time studying in the different bureaus of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Government agencies in Washington, D. C.

Via the drama

"Playwright" County Agent Weyrich of Wahkiakum County, Wash., found the drama a good way to put across some points of good pasture management before 148 grangers. He cast himself as the farmer who had a wife and two children of teen ages. Associate Agent Dona Murphy took the part of the mother, and two local young people acted as son and daughter.

■ Thirty-four people took to the air in what was the first organized airplane result demonstration tour in Wisconsin to view erosion and erosion control in La Crosse, Vernon, Crawford, Richland, and Monroe Counties. Passengers reported: "You surely can see it all from above." Each flight took 2 hours.



Flashes FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interest to extension workers, as seen by Marion Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Past

■ Many of the most outstanding research accomplishments of the Department of Agriculture from 1893 to the present have been written up in the brief reports known as Research Achievement Sheets. The subjects of new sheets have been announced on this page from time to time. Since the last report, 13 have been issued. As usual, the scope of the subjects is broad. The Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering tells how "Soil-moisture measurements aid wheat growers in the Great Plains" (73 P); "Better potato storages assure two-way savings" (77 P); "Blue lupine increases soil fertility in the South" (82 P). From the Bureau of Dairy Industry we have "Making American Cheddar cheese from pasteurized milk" (75 D) and "Making silage by the wilting method" (76 D). Curing methods to prevent ham spoilage (72 A) and fiber-measuring devices (74 A) are the latest subjects from Animal Industry.

The Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry's contributions are "Quality of turpentine and rosin improved by new methods" (80 C) and "Improvements in the process for making synthetic rubber" (81 C). The Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics tells how it developed new rules for home canning low-acid foods (70 H) and designed functional work clothes for women (79 H). The success of DDT sprays in controlling houseflies (83 E) is described by Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

Present

■ Hundreds of projects under way in the Agricultural Research Administration bureaus are advancing knowledge and pointing to practical applications. A few of these, described in the forthcoming annual report of the Administrator, follow.

Average production of eggs by tur-

keys during the hatching season was doubled through selection of breeding stock. Increased egg production is important in reducing the cost of producing turkeys.

Off-flavors of eggs in storage can be caused by strong-flavored feeds eaten by the hens, such as garlic, which is common on poultry ranges in the East.

Meal produced by solvent extraction of cottonseed oil was shown to be superior in chicken rations to commercial cottonseed meal or soybean meal.

Losses of poultry from Newcastle disease, prevalent in 41 States and the District of Columbia, can be reduced from 35 percent to 17 percent through use of commercial vaccines.

Dairy heifers can be raised successfully without grain from 10 months of age to calving time if they are given plenty of good-quality roughage.

A new treatment for the spinose ear tick destroyed the ticks in the ears of cattle and protected against reinestation for about 3 weeks. A compound of benzene hexachloride, xylol, and pine oil is introduced into the ear with an oiler.

Hulls of Persian (English) walnuts contain vitamin C in quantities that might have commercial significance. Large numbers of waste hulls are available if a process developed for recovering the vitamin proves economically feasible.

Improvements in methods of extracting rutin from buckwheat were made; and the drug, shown to be helpful in certain conditions connected with high blood pressure, is now sold by druggists on prescription.

Tomatin, the antibiotic agent found in tomato plants, was isolated in pure crystalline form.

Promising new insecticidal materials are being tried out. All major cotton pests can be controlled by one or more of these new substances.

Improvement of bees through breed-

ing has been made possible by the discovery that carbon dioxide gas causes unmated queen bees to lay eggs that hatch into drone bees. A method of artificial insemination of bees has already been devised.

A new peach, two new strains of hybrid corn, and a disease-resistant red clover have been introduced for use in the Southeast.

Improved soil-management practices doubled yields of sugar beets.

Future

■ Under the Research and Marketing Act of 1946 a large number of new research projects are being undertaken. Announcements of the goals of this research are made when projects are assigned; how soon these goals will be reached, only time will tell. Most of the work will be done in cooperation with State experiment stations, sometimes with other agencies also. A few of the objectives that have been announced are:

Discovery by plant exploration of crop plants in other parts of the world for introduction and testing in the United States.

Finding and development of plants or other agricultural products with possibilities for use as insecticides that will leave no residues toxic to man and animals. All plants that produce insecticides, except tobacco, are now imported.

Learning how much of recently discovered insecticides, such as DDT and benzene hexachloride, can be consumed by animals, as residues on crops, without harm.

Determining the possibilities of salvage of damaged timber.

Increasing knowledge of mineral deficiencies in soil in all regions of the United States.

Discovering and developing new and better uses for the products of bees, including the antibiotic produced by the organism causing the bee disease, American foulbrood.

Improving the flavor of soybean oil and controlling the deterioration of flavor in storage.

Exploring pilot-plant production of new and useful chemical derivatives of gum naval stores as a basis for new chemical industries.

Maintaining the sugar content and quality of harvested sugar beets and sugarcane in storage. Much sugar is lost in storage every year.

We Study Our Job

Township survey of farm practices

■ This is the story of a "down the road survey" of certain farm practices as developed by County Agent Irving Perry in Cortland County, N. Y., in the summer of 1946. He and his assistant, Warren West, visited practically all the farmers in the two towns of Willet and Preble in five "man-days" in the field. Three "man-days" were spent on office work. Judge for yourself if he got good returns for his time by what follows.

To begin with, "the executive committee" had recommended that the agents visit all the Farm Bureau members in a certain town where they had a new chairman and a group of new members. Mr. Perry confesses that he talked the matter over with other county agents at summer school and they "took him for a ride" for just visiting members. So Agents Perry and West set out to visit everyone down the road, partly to get acquainted with some new folks, partly to create good will, and most of all to evaluate their own work by finding out what farm practices are actually being carried on.

They didn't run around with a paper and pencil, but memorized a number of questions and "visited" until they had the answers. After getting into the car and out in the road, they filled in each farmer's "yes" or "no" answers. In this way they got a line on the farm practices adopted.

For example, in Willet Township (the 1945 Census gives 70 farms) they visited 62 places, found 57 operating, 53 raising their own replacements, and 3 purchasing most replacements. There were 41 purebred sires, 13 not purebred. Only 3 farmers planted Sudan grass and 6 millet, while 4 grazed aftermath. For pasture improvement, 18 reported they were doing something, and 34 nothing. Out of the 18 doing something, 13 applied manure, 12 applied lime, 9 super, 1 clipped, and 3 seeded. Of course, some did several of these things. DDT was used by 14, and 19

reported using milking methods which shorten the time required. Agent Perry expects to correlate these with the number of pounds of milk sold per farm and thus will have a township average.

Use of the results will be made, first of all, at a winter community meeting, then in a program planning committee. A special news story for Sunday papers and Farm Bureau News article will follow the community meeting.

In this survey the agents got acquainted better with all members, and made the acquaintance of many non-members and new residents. This type of simple evaluation work attracts the attention of townspeople and supervisors. In time, by taking two towns each year, Mr. Perry expects to have enough figures from which he can draw percentages which will be applicable to the county as a whole. After 5 years, he can check up each town for progress reports. This is one answer to the question "How am I doing?" which an extension agent can dig up for himself.

Homemakers give opinions

■ Two opinion polls were conducted at West Virginia's first postwar Farm Women's Camp attended by 140 camp members. Florence Hall, who conducted the polls with Gertrude Humphreys, points out that while this was informally done and not on a basis of "scientific sampling," the totals seem to indicate certain trends.

In one poll, 28 of 33 camp members interviewed rated radio as a "good" or "very good" way to get information to West Virginia women. From 20 to 26 women considered farm magazines, demonstration meetings, and home visits by the home demonstration agent as good sources of information. From 16 to 7 women listed the following as good sources of information: Neighbors, popular magazines, calling at home demonstration agent's office, calling agent on 'phone, and circular letters.

The other opinion poll was entitled "What Problems Are of Greatest Concern to You Today" with items listed

under 10 headings. Four of these—housing, health, recreation, and housekeeping—appeared to be of greatest concern to the 113 women who filled in the survey card.

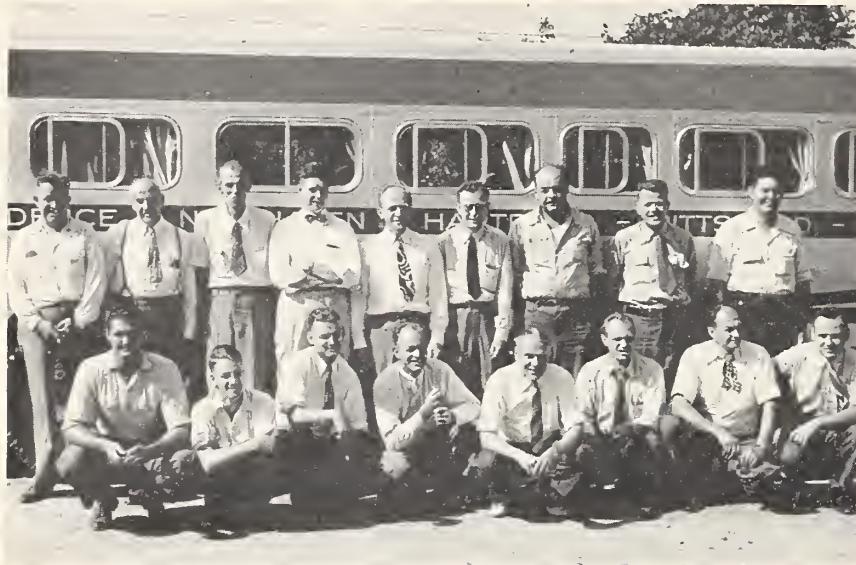
In the field of housing, of the 60 women who indicated "concern," only 6 checked "planning a new house." The others checked remodeling, "getting water in the kitchen," "putting in a bathroom," or "getting electricity." Forty-six women were concerned with house furnishings with particular need shown for room arrangement. Under Health 58 women underscored hospital insurance, disease prevention, or medical care.

Fifty-three women indicated "concern" about Recreation, especially for young people, with emphasis on the need for community facilities. Fifty-one women apparently felt the need for short-cuts and work simplification in Housekeeping.

■ In her analysis of the home demonstration agent's use of time, based on a Nation-wide study of records kept by experienced home agents, Mary L. Collings reports: Home agents' workweek averages 51½ hours of actual working time. There is a wide range in the length of the workweek, from 39 to 91 hours. About 46 percent of the agents furnishing information for the study find it hard to live up to their work schedules. About 25 percent of them reported the difficulty as "irregular," long, busy hours"; 9 percent mentioned the "too long schedules"; 19 percent mentioned "too many night meetings"; and about 5 percent reported a problem with "home calls in the evenings and on Sundays."

These figures, based on home agents' 2-week time records, are not an over-all appraisal of home agents' work. This analysis does not measure the effectiveness of each day's activities in reaching and influencing rural people, and the agents' satisfaction in helping people solve their own problems. Copies of this report (duplicated June 1947) were sent to all States for distribution to home agents.

Among Ourselves



Connecticut agents visit New Jersey and Pennsylvania

■ Connecticut's county agricultural agents spent a week in September visiting farms and other agricultural activities in northern New Jersey and in Lancaster County, Pa. Stops were made at the North Jersey Experiment Station farm, Beemerville; the muck-farming section in Newton and Great Meadows, N. J.; the farmers' cooperative auction market at Hackettstown, N. J.; the Walker-Gordon certified milk plant at Plainfield, N. J.; the USDA Northeastern Regional Research Laboratory near Philadelphia, and several farms and a farm-machinery plant in Lancaster County, Pa. Visits also included the bull barns of several artificial breeding associations.

Agents making the trip were (rear row, left to right): Philip F. Dean, Middlesex County; W. L. Harris, Jr., Hartford County; L. M. Chapman, Fairfield County; George Whitham, New London County; Raymond E. Wing, Windham County; Earle W. Prout, Jr., Middlesex and Tolland Counties; Raymond J. Platt, Fairfield

County; J. McCool, bus driver; W. Stanley Hale, New London County. (Front row, left to right): Robert G. Lauffler, Windham County; C. Edwin

EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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EXTENSION SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Smith, Litchfield County; Robert Stevens, New Haven County; Robert G. Hepburn, county agent leader; Harold W. Baldwin, extension editor; Roy E. Norcross, New Haven County; William R. Walker, extension dairy specialist; John Elliott, Tolland County. Not shown is R. S. Anderson, Hartford County, who was busy taking the picture.

■ T. L. BEWICK, State 4-H Club leader of Wisconsin, retired on August 16, at which time the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin declared him professor emeritus of agriculture. Appointed on October 1, 1914, as State Club leader, Mr. Bewick's service was even more significant because it was given at the early stages of a great youth organization—4-H Clubs. In the early years of club work important decisions had to be made, standards established, and methods of procedure developed. In the main, these decisions, standards, and methods which he helped make are operating today without much change—thus testifying to his judgment and vision.

Mr. Bewick was born on a farm near Windsor, Wis., on April 20, 1877. After he finished the eighth grade in a county school he worked on the home farm for 2 years before going to high school. After graduating from high school he managed the home farm for 2 years before entering River Falls Teachers College. He taught school before entering the University of Wisconsin, from which he graduated in 1906. The following year he taught physics at the university, and for several years was the principal of schools. Later he entered the College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin, as a graduate student and became instructor in agronomy, which position he held until being appointed club leader.

■ Green Lake County, Wis., has had excellent results from spraying sheep for parasite control, reports County Agent Lowell J. Keach. A record of 246 sheep per hour was attained.